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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GLYNCORRWG

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

1959.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH LIBRARY

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GLYNCORRWG URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL, 1959.

Chairman - Councillor A.T. Hunt, J.P., Abergwynfi.
Vice-Chairman - Councillor I. Davies, Abergwynfi.

Councillor W. Lewis, O.B.E., Cymmer
" F. Marchant, "
" H. Abraham, J.P., "
" T. Williams, J.P., "
" J.G. Miles, "
" I. George, "
" K. Jones, Abergwynfi.
" D. Williams, "
" B.W. James, "

Councillor W.I. Collins, Abergwynfi
" J. Thomas, Glyncorrwg
" A. Leonard, "
" E. Jenkins, "
" C. Williams, "

General Purposes Committee.

Chairman - Councillor William Lewis, O.B.E., Cymmer.
Housing Committee Chairman - Councillor I. George, Cymmer.
Finance Committee Chairman - Councillor E. Jenkins, Glyncorrwg.

Officials

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer to the Council.....	Mr. P.T. Geen, A.A.C.C.A.,A.C.I.S.,
Surveyor and Engineer.....	Mr. T.J. Walker, F.R.I.C.S.
Assistant Surveyor and Engineer.....	Mr. J. Jenkins.
Engineer's Clerk.....	Mr. P. Evans.
Treasurer.....	Midland Bank Limited, Cymmer.
Medical Officer of Health.....	Dr. D.H.J. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector..... Institute and San. Inspector's Exam. Cert. Royal San. Institute.	Mr. John Tate, Cert. Royal San. Joint Board, Meat Insp.
Chief Finance Clerk.....	Mr. S. Fuge.
Accountancy Assistant.....	Mr. R.G. Dayson.
General Clerk.....	Mr. R. Eckett.
" "	Mr. E. Glave (Miss V.M. Davies from 15th. June, 1959)
Housing Collector.....	Mr. E. Hughes.
" "	Mr. J. Davies.
Junior Clerk.....	Miss Julie Amato.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the Glyncorrwg Urban District.

Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to submit for your consideration and information the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1959. The report is prepared in accordance with the direction of the Ministry of Health as contained in Circular 1/60 (Wales) from the Welsh Board of Health.

The year 1959 will be remembered in many places as the year of the great drought. The Glyncorrwg Urban District normally receives a high average rainfall. This is occasioned by the high hills in and surrounding the area. Air warmed and moisture bearing coming in off the sea of the Bristol Channel is forced to rise thus cooling rapidly. The cooled air unable to contain its moisture thus deposits it in the form of dew or rain on the hills of the district. The sources of water supply utilised by the district described in detail in the body of this report are therefore normally well supplied. The prolonged spells of dry weather in 1959, however, threw a heavy strain on these sources and called for care and economy. It is pleasing to report that at no time did the supplies fail. The bacteriological quality of the water has maintained itself at the highest standard.

Coming as it does from upland, peaty gathering grounds, the water is by and large acid and soft. Due to its plumbo solvency the use of lead in the water pipes and services is therefore forbidden.

On this occasion, detailed particulars of the Council's Public Swimming Baths at Croeserw are included.

The general health of the population was maintained during the year.

There was a very slight drop in the number of births and as there was a slight increase in the number of hospital bed allocations this was reflected in a slight drop in the number of domiciliary confinements. As will be known the allocation of non-emergency maternity hospital beds is under the control of your Medical Officer of Health in his capacity as Divisional Medical Officer for the County Council. The Medical Officer is in the fortunate position of being able to examine each application with impartiality and fairness. All factors affecting the forthcoming confinement and puerperium are taken into consideration. These include medical, obstetric and clinical conditions, together with the history of previous pregnancies and confinements, if any, as well as environmental factors such as housing and domestic facilities.

It is normally held that a mother expecting her fourth child and onwards should, if possible, be confined in hospital. Yet surprisingly enough it is these mothers who need the greatest amount of persuasion to go into hospital. Usually their reasons against include the need for their presence in the home - to watch over, guide and manage the domestic affairs of the family.

Of the deaths, diseases of the Cardiovascular and respiratory systems provided the two principal causative factors. Fatal accidents amounting to six showed an increase of two over the figures for the previous year. Ten infants failed to reach their first birthday, eight of these failing to survive the first week.

This year again, it is pleasing to report that the Tuberculosis Register has dropped by twenty. Whilst some have left the district and two died and new cases have been added, a total of twenty-two have been removed from the list as recovered cases.

The notification of other infectious diseases have remained low. The measles outbreak of 1958 was not repeated in 1959.

Although not strictly within the administrative province of the Authority, I am glad to be able to inform you that the County Council's Vaccination programmes have been persued with undiminished vigour.

The Poliomyelitis Vaccination programme reached a degree of major intensity during the summer months and in response to popular demand, evening and week-end sessions were held and well patronised. Approximately 1050 people in the eligible age groups completed two injections and some 1800 received booster injections.

The B.C.G. Vaccination of school leavers was also carried out with vigour. This year,the fifth in the series, of 140 children eligible, consents were received from their parents in respect of 114 children. These were therefore Mantoux Tested and on the result of the test a total of 74 children were finally vaccinated and arrangements were made for the remainder to be specially X-Rayed.

At this point, I would like to express my thanks to Mr. J. Tate your Public Health Inspector, for the very valuable contributions he has made to this report and for his unfailing loyalty at all times.

The report would not be complete if reference were not made to the excellent and cordial spirit of co-operation I have experienced from both members of Council and my fellow officers in all departments.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

D.H.J. WILLIAMS.
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Park House,
Theodore Rd., PORT TALBOT.

Telephone No. Port Talbot 2137/8

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VITAL STATISTICS.

1. POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Urban District is shown below and for comparison purposes, that for certain preceding and census years is also appended.

For the year	1959	the estimated	population	was	10,030
" " "	1958	" "	"	"	9,900
" " "	1957	" "	"	"	9,750
" " "	1956	" "	"	"	9,660
" " "	1955	" "	"	"	9,560
" " "	1954	" "	"	"	9,550
" " "	1953	" "	"	"	9,490
" " "	1951	" census	"	"	9,236
" " "	1931	" "	"	"	10,208
" " "	1921	" "	"	"	10.772
" " "	1911	" "	"	"	8,689
" " "	1901	" "	"	"	6,452

The rateable value of the area for the year ended 31st. December, 1959 was as follows:-

General Rate Purposes.....£63,287. 0. 0d.
Sum represented by 1d. Rate.....£234. 16. 11d.

2. BIRTHS

During 1959, 189 live births were credited to the Urban District of which 88 were males and 101 were females. There were three stillbirths.

The birth rate was 18.84 per 1000 population and this compares with 20.30 for the previous year. For the whole of England and Wales the birth rate was 16.5.

The following table is of interest:-

Number of live births at home in the area.....	79
Number of live births at Neath General Hospital	97
Number of live births in Maesteg General Hospital and Bridgend General Hospital.....	13

From this it will be seen that more confinements took place in hospital than at home during the year. This trend has manifested itself for about four years. The number of hospital beds available remain approximately the same but the total number of births have increased.

3. DEATHS

Deaths from all causes in the area
(Males 62 Females 52..... 114

Death rate per 1000 of estimated resident population
Crude 13.37 Adjusted 16.26

Death Rate for England and Wales.....Crude 11.6

The following table shows the crude death rate in recent years:-

	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Crude	11.37	10.67	10.97	11.08	10.46	9.11	10.64	10.12	13.06	9.61
Adjusted	16.26	15.25	15.69							

4. MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no deaths of mothers from puerperal causes during 1959.

5. INFANT MORTALITY.

Whilst the infant mortality rate for the whole of England and Wales was 22.0, that for the Urban District was 52.91 and this was occasioned by the failure of 10 infants to reach their first birthday.

Comparative figures for the past ten years are given below.

1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
52.91	34.15	28.30	37.04	43.96	50.76	43.72	23.15	40.91	72.63

TABLE 4 at the end of this annual report gives an analysis of the causes of death.

DEATHS (all ages)

The main causes of death in the area during 1959 were:-

1. Cardiovascular conditions..... 38
2. Cancers of various kinds..... 15
3. Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)..... 22
4. Vascular lesions of the nervous system..... 13
5. Tuberculosis..... 3
6. Accidents..... 6

Of the thirty-eight deaths attributable to cardiovascular conditions, fifteen (nine males, six females) were due to coronary disease.

TABLE 1.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT FOR 1959.

These statistics have been confirmed by the Registrar General.

Live Births:	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	187	87	100
Illegitimate	2	1	1

Crude Birth-rate per 1,000 population = 18.84
Adjusted " " " " " = 18.46
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births = 1.06

Still-births:-	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Still-birth rate per 1,000 total births = 15.63

Deaths:-

Total	Males	Females
114	62	52

Crude Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population = 11.37
Adjusted " " " " " " " " " = 16.26

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

There were no deaths from puerperal causes.

Number of Deaths under 1 year of age = 10

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births 52.91
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births 52.91
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births..... Nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages)..... 0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)..... 0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)..... 15

TABLE 2.

ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSES OF INFANTS' DEATHS DURING 1959.

NEONATAL DEATHS : 7 NEONATAL DEATH RATE : 37.04 thousand live births

CERTIFIED CAUSE OF DEATH	1st. 24 hours of life	One day One week	One week One month
1.a. Pneumococcal Meningitis	-	1	-
1.a. Prematurity	1	-	-
1.a. Asphyxia	-	1	-
1.a. Subdural & extral dural haemorrhage b. Laceration of falx cerebri c. Prolonged labour forceps delivery	1	-	-
1.a. Acute Bronchitis	-	1	-
1.a. Hyaline membrane disease b. Prematurity	2	-	-
1.a. Asphyxia Pallida	1	-	-

Deaths during one month to one year of age : 2

1. Aspiration of Vomit - 1

1. Broncho Pneumonia - 1

TABLE 3.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases during 1959:-

		PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-
Over 1 year and under 5 years	-	1	1	-	-
Over 5 years and under 10 years	-	-	-	-	-
Over 10 years and under 15 years	-	-	-	-	-
Over 15 years and under 20 years	-	-	1	-	-
Over 20 years and under 25 years	-	-	-	-	-
Over 25 years and under 35 years	-	-	-	-	-
Over 35 years and under 45 years	-	-	1	-	-
Over 45 years and under 55 years	-	-	1	-	1
Over 55 years and under 65 years	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65 years and under 75 years	-	-	-	-	-
Over 75 years	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS		1	4	-	1

Below I append the notification state at the beginning and end of 1959 for comparison purposes:-

TUBERCULOSIS
INCIDENCE AND DOMICILIARY CARE.

		Males	Females
Number of Cases on Register 1st January, 1959	Pulmonary	47	65
	Non-Pulmonary	7	13
	Total -	54	78
Number of Cases on Register 31st December, 1959	Pulmonary	38	59
	Non-Pulmonary	5	10
	Total -	43	69

Total cases on January 1st 1959 - 132

Total cases on December 31st 1959 - 112

Number removed from Register as follows:-

Number left district	-	8
Number died	-	2
Number recovered	-	22

Number added to Register as follows:-

Number of new notifications	-	6
Number of in-transfers	-	6
Restored to Register	-	-

Not officially notified (Local Registrar's Death Returns)

Pulmonary Tuberculosis - 1 male

TABLE 4.

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1959.

(as recorded by Registrar General)

		Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	3	-
2.	Tuberculosis, Non-Respiratory	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Disease	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, Bronchus	-	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, Breast	-	-
13.	Malignant neoplasm, Uterus	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	6
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16.	Diabetes	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	9
18.	Coronary disease, angina	9	6
19.	Hypertension, with heart disease	1	3
20.	Other heart disease	3	5
21.	Other circulatory disease	5	6
22.	Influenza	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	1	2
24.	Bronchitis	7	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	4	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	6
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
34.	All other accidents	5	-
35.	Suicide	1	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	All causes	62	52

INFECTIOUS DISEASES OR FEVERS.

The incidence and distribution of notified infectious diseases including tuberculosis is shown in the following table:-

	Glyncorrwg	Cymmer	Abergwynfi	Total for 1959	Total for 1958	Total for 1957
Scarlet Fever	3	5	3	11	1	4
Measles	-	4	12	16	58	64
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	1	19
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	1	4	-	5	14	4
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary	-	1	-	1	1	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	14	15	33	75	94

H O U S I N G.

The post-war total of new Council houses built in the area is now 593.

During 1959, however, for the first year since 1946, no new houses were under construction for the Council.

Approval has, however, been obtained from the Planning Authority for the Council's proposal to erect flats in Blaengwynfi as follows:-

Western Square, Jersey Road, Blaengwynfi.

Two two-storey blocks of one-bedroom flats with a total of eight dwellings.

Park Site, Blaengwynfi Park, Blaengwynfi.

Three four-storey blocks of two-bedroom flats with a total of forty dwellings.

Gwynfi Street, Blaengwynfi.

One three-storey block of two-bedroom flats with a total of nine dwellings.

Some of these dwellings will be used to re-house families displaced from the following Clearance Areas which have been declared under the Housing Act, 1957.

1. Nantybar Street, Abercregan.

2. Fforchlas Cottages, Abercregan.

3. Lloyds Terrace, Cymmer.

Housing repair work continues to be hampered by a shortage of building labour in the district.

Proceedings in a Magistrates Court were necessary in twenty-four instances to secure compliance with Statutory Notices under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936, requiring the abatement of nuisances due to disrepair of dwellinghouses.

Dangerous buildings and structures were the subject of sixteen notices under Section 58 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Court proceedings were instituted in two cases to secure compliance with these notices.

The following housing details are of interest:-

1. Number of new dwelling-houses erected during the year:-
   (a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) 0
   (b) With state assistance under the Housing Acts:-
      (i) Built by the Local Authority..... 0
      (ii) Built by other bodies or persons..... 0

2. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-

   1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 132
      (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 441
   2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925..... 0
      (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 0
   3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... 0
   4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 123

3. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.
   Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers..... 20

4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.
   A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of Housing Act, 1936 -
   (1) Number of dwelling-houses in which notices were served requiring repairs..... 0
   (2) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of Formal Notice:
      (a) By owners..... 0
      (b) By Local Authority..... 0

   B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts -
   (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 123

   (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notice:
      (a) By Owners 83
      (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners 0

   C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 12 Housing Act, 1936 -
   (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... 0
   (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order..... 0

5. Housing Act 1936 - Part iv. - Overcrowding:-

(a) - (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year) Information
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein.....) not
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.....) available.

(b) - Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year..... 0

(c) - (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 0
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases..... 0

(d) - Number of cases in which dwellings have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding..... 0

6. Bed Bug Infestation: The Public Health Inspector's services are available for all householders. Wherever there is any suspicion, he inspects the bedding and furniture of incoming tenants of council houses.

The disinfestation is by means of the insecticide known as D.D.T. either in liquid or powder form.

Number of council houses disinfested..... 4
Number of other houses disinfested..... 6

There are no common lodging houses, Camp sites or inhabited tents, vans and sheds in the area.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The Summer of 1959 was marked by a succession of long sunny days whose healthgiving properties were enjoyed by all.

It was, however, not without its anxieties as far as water supplies were concerned.

The average monthly rainfull in the area for the six months April to September was 2.69 inches which was well below that recorded in recent years.

Consequently the flow of the mountain streams upon which we rely for the constancy of our water supplies was in some instances reduced to a mere trickle. However, it was not found necessary to restrict supplies and the advent of the Autumn rains soon restored the situation.

The main sources of water supply in the area are as follows:-

1. High Level Tank, Glyncorrwg.

This tank supplies the village of Glyncorrwg and is fed from the stream Nantyrallor which has its source and gathering ground on the slopes of Mynydd Ynyscorrwg.

2. Low Level Tank, Glyncorrwg.

The gathering ground of the stream Nantygroes which supplies this tank is also on the western slopes of Mynydd Ynyscorrwg. Abercregan and the north side of Cymmer are supplied from this source.

3. Gwynfi Reservoir, Blaengwynfi.

Water from the Gwynfi reservoir is impounded from the Gwynfi brook which has its source and gathering ground on Mynydd Abergwynfi. This reservoir supplies the south side of Cymmer including the Croeserw Housing Estate and the villages of Duffryn Rhondda and Cynonville.

4. East Level Waterworks, Abergwynfi.

This supply is taken from a small tributary of the Avon River at Abergwynfi. The needs of the whole of Abergwynfi and Blaengwynfi are met from this source.

The seven houses in Fforchlas, Abercregan, are supplied from a spring about 70 yards to the north west on rising ground. A small concrete tank is installed and the water piped to a standpipe in the middle of the terrace.

The fourteen houses in Cwmcas have a private piped supply to each house from a concrete tank on rising ground a few yards to the rear. This tank is supplied from an adjacent spring.

During the year, twenty samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination from the four main sources of supply. All proved to be satisfactory.

Six bacteriological samples were taken from the small subsidiary supplies which are piped from springs to Cwmcas Houses, Glyncorrwg and Fforchlas Cottages, Abercregan.

One of these samples proved to be unsatisfactory.

The water from our four main sources of supply being of a soft character are lead solvent, consequently the use of lead in water service pipes in the area is not allowed.

Houses numbering 2616 with an estimated population of 9953 were supplied directly from the Council's water mains. Seven houses were supplied from a public water main by means of a standpipe.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

The Glyncorrwg Urban District Council owns and administer a Public Swimming Bath. This is situated adjoining the Croeserw Housing Estate and during the summer months is a very popular centre of resort for the younger element of the population. Being open-air, the Baths open only during the summer period.

The Swimming Pool is 120 feet long, 42 feet wide and varies from 2 ft.6 ins. to 8 feet in depth. The volume of water contained amounts to 23,750 cubic feet. The water is treated by rapid filtration and chlorination, a "Bell" Bath Filtration Plant driven by 7½ H.P. Electric Motor and using a solution of Alumina and Soda having been installed for this purpose.

The filtered water is re-chlorinated to a concentration of 0.2 to 0.5 parts per million before being returned to the Bath. The water is subjected to a complete changeover within a period of six hours.

Replacement and additional water is supplied via the Council's water mains from the Gwynfi Reservoir.

Changing cubicles and toilet facilities for both sexes are available adjoining the baths. Foot baths are provided.

During the Season (May to September) three serial samples taken at appropriate intervals all gave satisfactory results.

FOOD HYGIENE

When the Food Hygiene Regulations came into force in 1955 the Minister of Health gave an undertaking to draw up Codes of Practice to meet the requirements of individual trades.

In these codes advice and guidance is to be given to persons who are engaged in particular branches of the food industry.

The first two codes, which were published on the 17th November, 1959, deal with the hygienic transport and handling of meat and hygiene in the retail meat trade and are based on drafts prepared by the Standing Committee of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health, following consultation with local authority associations, trade associations etc.

The attention of local traders has already been directed to these codes of practice, but from a health department point of view, the fact that there is to be no compulsion in the application of the codes tends to diminish their usefulness.

Credit must be given to the food traders in the area for their care and attention in complying with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and this reflected in the absence of cases of food poisoning in the area during 1959.

Particulars of notices under the Food Hygiene Regulations that have been served on occupiers of food premises are given on the following pages.

1. MEAT AND OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

Food premises in the urban area may be enumerated and classified as follows:-

Grocery and provisions stores	-	19
Small (parlour type) sweets and general shops	-	16
Fish and Chips	-	4
Greengrocery	-	5
Cafè and sweets	-	5
Butchers	-	5
Ice-cream makers	-	2
Bakehouses	-	1
Sausage making premises	-	4
Colliery canteens	-	4
School canteens	-	8
		73

Of the above total the following premises are registered:-

Bakehouses	-	1
Premises where sausages are made	-	4
Premises where ice-cream is made	-	2
Premises where ice-cream is stored and sold only	-	28

During the year 367 visits of inspection were made to food premises.

Notices drawing attention to requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 etc., were served as follows:-

Provision of constant hot water for hand washing	-	2 notices
Cleanliness of food rooms	-	1 notice
Defective drain	-	1 notice
Defective W.C.'s	-	2 notices
Defective wash-hand basin	-	1 notice

There is one bakehouse in use in the area which is situated in Cymmer.

The statutory requirements applicable to bakehouses are contained in the Factories Act, 1937 and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Two notices were served during the year for non-observance of these provisions as follows:-

Defective W.C.'s	-	1
Want of Cleanliness	-	1

These notices were promptly complied with.

The following articles of food which were found to be diseased, unwholesome or unsound were surrendered and disposed of by being buried in the Council's refuse tips:-

Corned Beef	-	48 lbs	Prunes	-	11 tins
Ham	-	59 "	Scotch Broth	-	4 "
Luncheon Meat	-	20 tins	Condensed Milk	-	2 "
Fruit	-	142 "	Evaporated Milk	-	9 "
Tomatoes	-	103 "	Salmon	-	19 "
Mincemeat	-	7 lbs	Soup	-	3 "
Peas	-	15 tins	Stewed Steak	-	6 "
Beans	-	10 "	Rice Pudding	-	1 "

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the area which is situated at the rear of 165, Jersey Road, Blaengwynfi.

This slaughterhouse is not in regular use. There were no animals slaughtered there during the year.

The following table gives the classification of animals slaughtered, for sale for human consumption, in the area during 1959.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11	Nil
Number inspected	-	-	-	-	10	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	Nil	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	-	-	-	Nil	Nil	-
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	None	None	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	None	None	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	None	None	-
Cysticerosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	None	None	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	None	None	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	None	None	-

ICE-CREAM.

New regulations for the manufacture of ice-cream which came into force during 1959 are called the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment,etc.) Regulations 1959.

Ingredients from which ice-cream is made must now be pasteurised or sterilised and must be kept thereafter at a low temperature until the freezing process takes place.

Under the Regulations it will be an offence to sell ice-cream which has not been so treated.

Certain types of water ices and ice lollies are exempt from the pasteurisation or sterilisation requirements as they are sufficiently acid to inhibit the growth of pathological organisms.

There are now two premises registered in the area for the manufacture of ice-cream and twenty-seven premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream.

During the year, twenty-two samples of ice-cream were taken by your Public Health Inspector and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff.

Results were as follows:-

Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

Number of samples attaining Provisional Grade						1	=	22.
"	"	"	"	"	"	2	=	0
"	"	"	"	"	"	3	=	0
"	"	"	"	"	"	4	=	0

Grade 1 is provisionally interpreted as "Satisfactory"
" 2 " " " " "Fair"
" 3 " " " " "Unsatisfactory"
" 4 " " " " "Very unsatisfactory".

M I L K.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 to 1954 have now been replaced by the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, which came into operation on the 8th. March, 1959.

The principal changes may be briefly listed as follows:-

(a) Food poisoning has been included in the list of notifiable diseases which, when contracted by persons engaged in the handling of milk, must be notified to the Medical Officer of Health of the district.

(b) Milk distributors who trade outside the area in which they are registered and have their premises, need not be registered in these other areas.

(c) Provision is made for the Local Authority to pay compensation to a person who sustains loss or damage through being debarred by the Medical Officer of Health from certain employment connected with milk because he is suffering from a disease liable to cause infection in milk.

District Councils are responsible for sampling for bacteriological examination which is a test of the hygienic quality of the milk and its freedom from infection by tubercle bacilli.

The following table gives the number and classification of registered persons engaged and registered premises used, in the production, storage and sale of milk in the area:

Cowkeepers	-	2
Registered distributors of milk	-	8
Milk shops where milk is sold in sealed bottles	-	7
Premises used as dairies	-	7

Eight retailers were licensed during the year to sell pasteurised milk and seven to sell tuberculin tested milk.

Five samples of milk were taken during the year from the dairy herds of registered cowkeepers in the area and were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli. All the samples proved to be negative.

Reports from the Public Health Laboratory on thirteen samples of pasteurised and tuberculin tested milk submitted from this area also proved to be satisfactory except in one instance.

RODENT CONTROL.

Supervision and enforcement of rodent control work in the area is undertaken by Mr. J. Tate the Public Health Inspector.

Your Council do not employ a full-time rodent operative but the sewer-man carries out rodent control work when he is available.

Certain rodent control measures such as the six monthly treatment of sewer manholes, the thrice yearly treatment of refuse tips and river banks are carried out by the rodent operative but the Public Health Inspector does most of the poisoning treatment of rats or mice infested dwelling-houses and business premises.

The poisons used by the rodent operative are nine phosphide and arsenic and the methods of application are those recommended by the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The sewer manholes, refuse tips etc., are first pre-baited for two or three days with biscuit meal or stale bread crumbs. On the third or fourth day when they are readily consuming the pre-bait a poison is mixed with it.

The poison used in dwellinghouses and business premises is the anti-coagulant known as Warfarin. Rats and mice eating this poison die of internal and external bleeding.

The need for rodent control work is evident when one considers the destruction of our food in fields, in factories and canteens and even in the home larder. Though rats and mice eat a lot of food they foul an even greater amount which has to be thrown away. They also spread diseases. Some of these such as Weil's disease can be fatal to man.

The table on the next page gives particulars of rodent control work carried out during 1959.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Report for year ended 31st. December, 1959.

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling-houses	Agricultural	All other (including business premises	TOTAL Columns 1,2 & 4
	1.	2.	3.	4.	
1. Total number of properties in district	48	2664	21	259	2971
2. Number of properties inspected during 1959 as a result of:-					
(a) notification	2	18	0	5	25
(b) Survey	26	54	21	31	111
(c) otherwise	2	58	9	137	297
3. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by rats					
Major	3	0	0	0	3
Minor	1	21	0	5	27
4. Number of properties which were found to be infested by mice.					
Major	0	0	0	0	0
Minor	1	11	3	1	13
5. Number of infested properties treated	5	31	3	6	43
6. Number of notices served under Section 4					
(1) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(2) Structural works	-	-	-	-	-
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken	-	-	-	-	-
8. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-

9. Number of "block" control schemes carried out = Nil

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

In accordance with the Sanitary Officers' Order, Mr. John Tate, the Public Health Inspector, has, by inspection of the area, to keep himself informed of the sanitary circumstances of the district and in respect of nuisances that require abatement. Under other Acts, Regulations and Orders, he has a variety of other duties.

A summary of his inspections and visits during 1959 is as follows:-

GENERAL DISTRICT INSPECTIONS:-	Number
Abergwynfi and Blaengwynfi	15
Cymmer	8
Duffryn Rhondda and Cynonville	9
Glyncorrwg	11
HOUSING AND BUILDING INSPECTIONS:-	
Dwelling-houses in respect of defects and nuisances due to dis-repair	132
Re-visits to dwelling-houses - as above	309
Defective and new drains	69
Cinemas and Halls	9
Dangerous and dilapidated buildings and structures	91
Piggeries	27
HYGIENE OF FOOD INSPECTIONS:-	
Dairies and milk shops	64
Butchers' shops, fish shops, grocery stores and food preparation places	377
FACTORY INSPECTIONS	61
INSPECTIONS UNDER SHOPS ACT, 1934	101
PEST CONTROL INSPECTIONS	
Rodent Control	433
Bed Bug Infestation	15
MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS	
Miscellaneous nuisances	18
Defective sewers	16
Water works and water supply	21
Infectious diseases and disinfections	9
Total number of inspections	1795

Action taken in cases of breaches of Acts, Orders and Regulations discovered during inspections is summarised as follows:-

Subject of Inspections	Nature of breaches of Acts, Orders and Regulations	No. of Informal Notices.	No. of Statutory Notices.	Number of Notices complied with	
				Informal	Statutory
Dwelling Houses on complaint of a nuisance.	Dampness, Disrepair, Defective paved areas, W.C.'s drainage etc.	123	88	20	82
Miscellaneous nuisances.	Dead Sheep, Deposit of Manure, Deposits of house refuse, etc.	13	3	10	3
Dairies and Milkshops.	Nil	-	-	-	-
Dangerous or dilapidated buildings and structures.	Buildings or structure dilapidated or dangerous.	16	7	9	7
Butcher shops, Fish shops, Grocery and Provision stores and places where food is prepared.	Removal of refuse, cleansing and Lime-washing required. Provision of adequate washing facilities etc.	7	2	5	1
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces (including Bakehouses).	Cleansing and Lime-washing required. Sanitary conveniences defective.	0	2	0	2
Pigstyes.	Cleansing and Lime-washing required.	3	0	3	0
Drains.	Defective and choked.	18	6	12	6
Domestic Water Supplies.	Insufficient.	7	4	3	4
"	Houses without water supply.	0	1	0	1
"	Wastage.	0	8	0	8

HYGIENE OF FACTORIES.

Local Authorities are required by the Factories Act, 1937, to administer the provisions of the Act relating to sanitary conveniences in all factories and the provisions relating to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, and drainage of floors, in factories in which mechanical power is not used.

Local Authorities are also responsible for securing in factories adequate precautions against fire and administration of bakehouses and certain other matters relating to public health.

A register must also be kept of all factories in the district.

Factories Act, 1937.
Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937
Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health - 1959 (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	7	31	1	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	6	24	1	0
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	3	6	0	0
Total	16	61	2	0

2. Cases in which defects were found.

	Number of cases in which defects were found		Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

Outworkers

3. There were no outworkers in the August list required by Section 110, Factories Act, 1937. No action was necessary to be taken under Section 110 and 111 of the Act.